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Meningococcal Disease (Neisseria meningitidis) 2010 Case Definition | CDC  
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Meningococcal Disease (  
Neisseria meningitidis  
)  
2010 Case Definition  
Meningococcal Disease (  
Neisseria meningitidis  
)  
2010 Case Definition  
NOTE:  
A surveillance case definition is a set of uniform criteria used to define a disease for public health surveillance. Surveillance case definitions enable public health officials to classify and count cases consistently across reporting jurisdictions. Surveillance case definitions are not intended to be used by healthcare providers for making a clinical diagnosis or determining how to meet an individual patient’s health needs.  
CSTE Position Statement(s)  
09-ID-42  
Case Classification  
Suspected  
Clinical purpura fulminans in the absence of a positive blood culture;  
OR  
Gram-negative diplococci, not yet identified, isolated from a normally sterile body site (e.g., blood or cerebrospinal fluid [CSF]).  
Probable  
Detection of  
N. meningitidis  
-specific nucleic acid in a specimen obtained from a normally sterile body site (e.g.,. blood or CSF), using a validated polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay,  
OR  
Detection of  
N. meningitidis  
antigen:  
in formalin-fixed tissue by immunohistochemistry (IHC);  
OR  
in CSF by latex agglutination.  
Confirmed  
Isolation of  
Neisseria meningitidis  
:  
From a normally sterile body site (e.g., blood or cerebrospinal fluid, or, less commonly, synovial, pleural, or pericardial fluid),  
OR  
From purpuric lesions.  
Related Case Definition(s)  
Meningococcal Disease (  
Neisseria meningitidis  
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Meningococcal Disease (  
Neisseria meningitidis  
) | 2005 Case Definition  
Meningococcal Disease (  
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NNDSS receives and shares case data from state, local, and territorial health departments to help public health monitor, control, and prevent serious diseases.  
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